GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2680
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
EXPORT OF GRANITE
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any scheme for extracting granite and improving its mining technology in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which granite reserves are available in the country, location-wise;

(d) the details of granite exported during each of the last three years and the current year;

(e) whether export of granite has been badly affected in the recent years;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTRY OF MINES(SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a)& (b) Granite is a minor mineral defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals(Development and Regulation)Act,1957(MMDR Act) and as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957, all powers to make rules and grant mineral concessions for minor minerals have been given to the concerned State Government. The Central Government has notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 on 1st June, 1999, to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe a uniform frame work with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

The Central Government has constituted a Granite Development Council(GDC) including various stakeholders to discuss and redressal issues raised by granite industry.

(c) As per available information, as on 1.4.2005 an estimated reserve of 1130 million cubic meters of reserves are available in the country, of which 86% are located in Madhya Pradesh, 7% in Orissa and the remaining 7% are located in the States of Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Details of export of granite and granite products from India in terms of quantity and value from 2005-06 to 2007-08 are as under :-

Year	Value ((in Rs. Lakhs)
2005-06	349059.10
2006-07	472484.20
2007-08	428748.50
2008-09 (Projections)	437052.10

(e)&(f) During the year 2007-08, there has been a decline of 9% in the exports of granite and products over the previous year. Exports of granite have been hit especially in the US market and other developed markets because of the allegation on emission of radioactive radon.

(g) Government provides opportunities for buyer-seller meet through Chemicals & Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) and promotion of industry through schemes like Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, grant of Duty Entitlement

Passbook credit etc.